A NEW HOME FOR CALABASH

In summer 2020, Digital Scholarship Services at NYU Libraries was approached by NYU professor Jacqueline Bishop about finding a new home for **Calabash: A Journal of Caribbean Arts and Letters**. Multilingual and focused on centering unheard voices, Calabash was a pioneering journal showcasing poetry, literature, and visual arts from across the Caribbean. The journal, which Dr. Bishop edited from 2000-2008, had since ceased publishing, and the NYU server that had been hosting the site was due to be retired.

NYU | LIBRARIES

PROJECT TEAM

Zach Coble // Head, Digital Scholarship Services
Jonathan Greenberg // Digital Scholarly Publishing Specialist
Marii Nyrop // Senior Research Data Engineer
Kate Pechekhonova //Senior DevOps Engineer
Alexandra Provo // Research Curation Librarian
Nick Wolf // Research Data Management Librarian and Co-Head of Data Services
Deb Verhoff // Digital Collections Manager
Vita Kurland // NYU/LIU Dual Degree student
Katherine Santana // NYU/LIU Dual Degree student

LINKS & CONTACT

Alexandra Provo | alexandra.provo@nyu.edu
Calabash's new home | http://hdl.handle.net/2451/62241
Blog posts
https://wp.nyu.edu/library-dlts/2022/09/14/a-new-home-for-calabash/
https://marii.info/notes/ghostscript-for-washed-out-pdfs

01

OPTIONS

Newly formed digital library governance groups were consulted and the following options proposed:

1. **Create a static site** (hosted by faculty member or by library)
2. **Extract PDFs and publish to the Faculty Digital Archive** (institutional repository built on DSpace)
3. **Build a new site** that would allow for better citation and discovery at the article level
4. **Journal is acquired by University Archives:** crawl using UA's instance of Archive-It, or treat as a born-digital archival collection.

02

DECISION

Extract PDFs and deposit to institutional repository

In contrast to digital editions with rolling releases, as a journal Calabash's content was released periodically: the website consisted of a landing page for each issue with links to PDFs. Although the creation of static sites is becoming a standard practice (see Endings Principles, 2023 and Ronallo, 2017), the focus for Dr. Bishop was on the articles, not necessarily the look and feel of the website. Another benefit of depositing in the institutional repository was the level of preservation commitment and improved citability via metadata, DOIs, and handle URLs.

03

INTERNET ARCHIVE

Although look and feel was not a priority, the presentation of a digital humanities project is part of its essence (Holmes and Takeda, 79). Since the site was already being crawled, we checked to see that the main pages were included in IA.

04

IMPLEMENTATION

HTTrack WEBSITE COPIER

Preparation

- Extracted PDFs from website
  - Copied off old server with httrack
  - OCR'd PDF documents and injected .txt back into PDFs
- Created a Metadata Application Profile (MAP) to configure DSpace collection

Metadata acquisition and transformation

- Scraped website using Python
- Used OpenRefine and Google Sheets to combine spreadsheets, transform data, and derive filenames, volume and issue numbers
- Filled out DOI spreadsheets based on scraped metadata and ran a script to assign DOIs from our internal registry
  - Did manual quality check, comparing number of articles on website with number of rows in corresponding spreadsheet

Loading PDFs to FDA

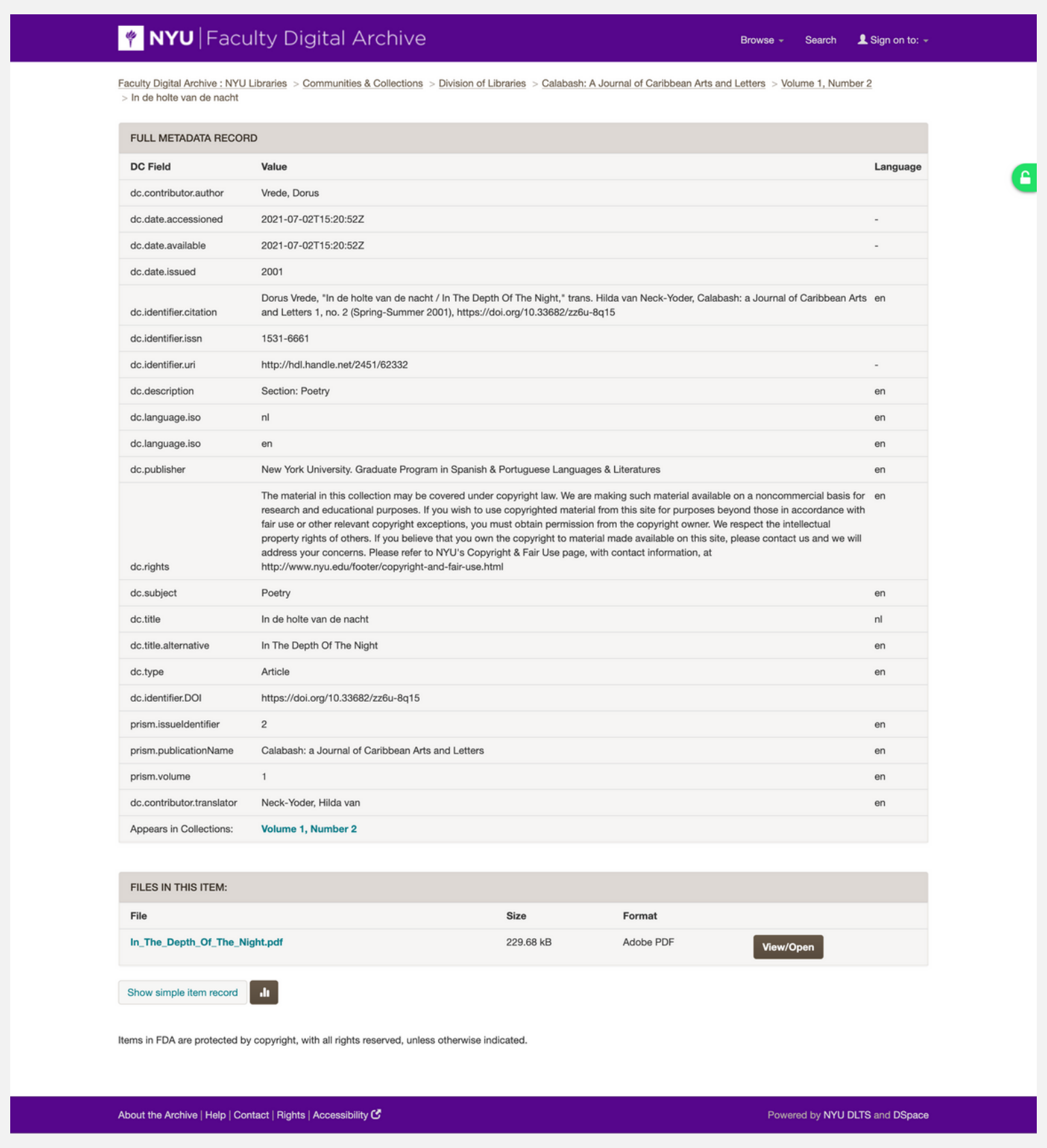
- Added metadata spreadsheets to folders containing the OCR'd PDFs
- Used SAFBuilder to package XML metadata and bitstreams so we could upload both PDFs and metadata

Metadata enrichment

- Two NYU/LIU Dual Degree students used the MAP to add information such as alternate titles, translators, subjects, and descriptions
- Focused on language, taking care to tag titles and alternate labels with their respective languages, and recording languages other than English in the language field

Registering DOIs

- Generated Crossref XML files for DOI registration using Python scripts created in-house



NYU | Faculty Digital Archive — Browse — Search — Sign on to:

Faculty Digital Archive : NYU Libraries > Communities & Collections > Division of Libraries > Calabash: A Journal of Caribbean Arts and Letters > Volume 1, Number 2 > In de holte van de nacht

FULL METADATA RECORD

DC Field	Value	Language
dc.contributor.author	Vrede, Dorus	
dc.date.accessioned	2021-07-02T15:20:52Z	-
dc.date.available	2021-07-02T15:20:52Z	-
dc.date.issued	2001	
dc.identifier.citation	Dorus Vrede, "In de holte van de nacht / In The Depth Of The Night," trans. Hilda van Neck-Yoder, Calabash: a Journal of Caribbean Arts and Letters 1, no. 2 (Spring-Summer 2001), https://doi.org/10.33682/zz6u-8q15	en
dc.identifier.issn	1531-6661	
dc.identifier.uri	http://hdl.handle.net/2451/62332	-
dc.description	Section: Poetry	en
dc.language.iso	nl	en
dc.language.iso	en	en
dc.publisher	New York University. Graduate Program in Spanish & Portuguese Languages & Literatures	en
dc.rights	The material in this collection may be covered under copyright law. We are making such material available on a noncommercial basis for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes beyond those in accordance with fair use or other relevant copyright exceptions, you must obtain permission from the copyright owner. We respect the intellectual property rights of others. If you believe that you own the copyright to material made available on this site, please contact us and we will address your concerns. Please refer to NYU's Copyright & Fair Use page, with contact information, at http://www.nyu.edu/footer/copyright-and-fair-use.html	en
dc.subject	Poetry	en
dc.title	In de holte van de nacht	nl
dc.title.alternative	In The Depth Of The Night	en
dc.type	Article	en
dc.identifier.DOI	https://doi.org/10.33682/zz6u-8q15	
prism.issueIdentifier	2	en
prism.publicationName	Calabash: a Journal of Caribbean Arts and Letters	en
prism.volume	1	en
dc.contributor.translator	Neck-Yoder, Hilda van	en
Appears in Collections:	Volume 1, Number 2	

FILES IN THIS ITEM:

File	Size	Format	
In_The_Depth_Of_The_Night.pdf	229.68 kB	Adobe PDF	View/Open

Show simple item record

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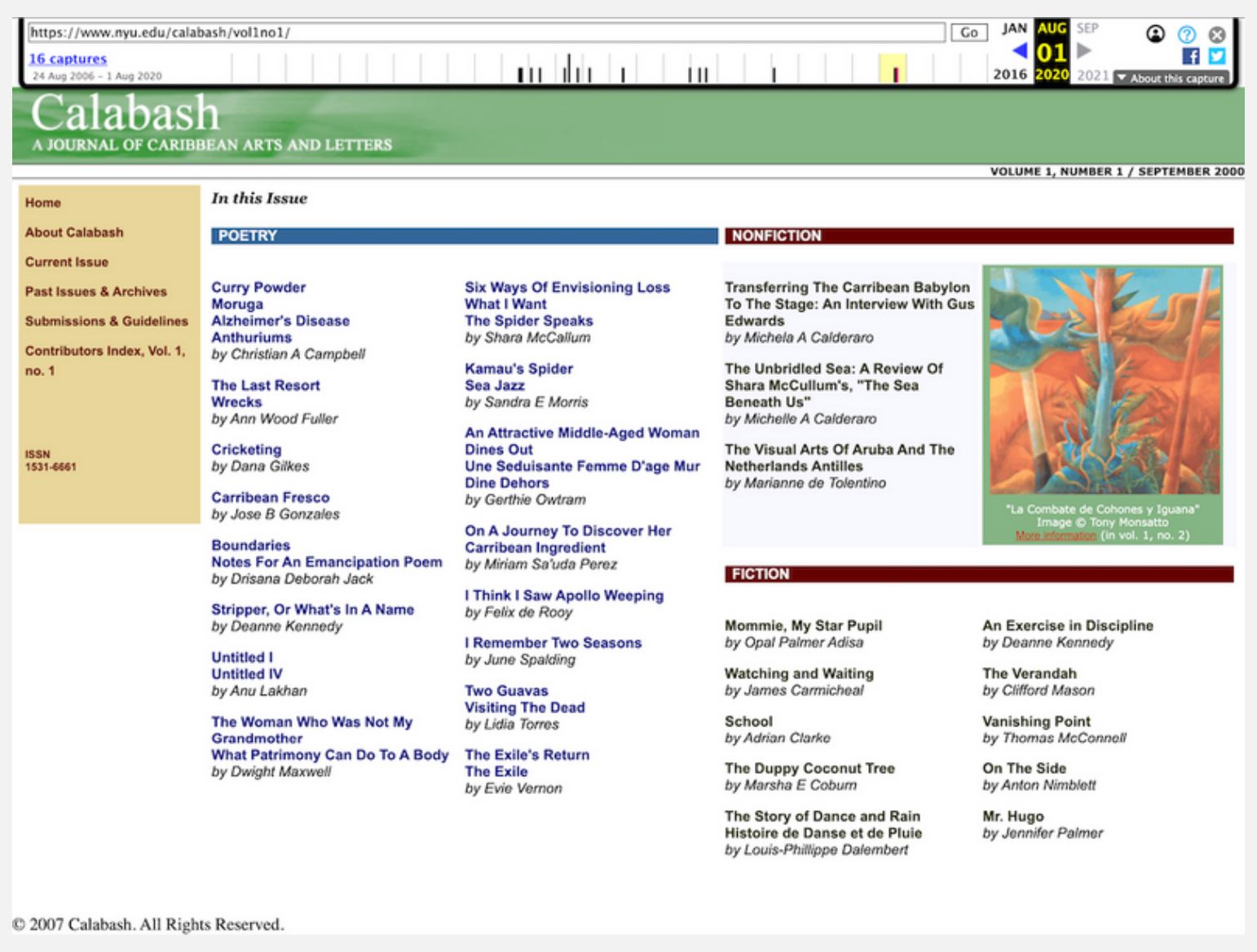

https://www.nyu.edu/calabash/vol1no1/ — Go

16 captures
24 Aug 2006 - 1 Aug 2020

Calabash
A JOURNAL OF CARIBBEAN ARTS AND LETTERS

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1 / SEPTEMBER 2000

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by Marianne de Tolentino

"La Combate de Cohones y Iguana"
Image © Tony Monsatto
More information (in vol. 1, no. 2)

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School
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Histoire de Danse et de Pluie
by Louis-Phillippe Dalembert

An Exercise in Discipline
by Deanne Kennedy

The Verandah
by Clifford Mason

Vanishing Point
by Thomas McConnell

On The Side
by Anton Nimblett

Mr. Hugo
by Jennifer Palmer

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05

REFLECTIONS

- **Webscraping**
  - Older, well-structured HTML website made for effective scraping
  - Typos were perpetuated, and not all metadata could be derived
- **Multilingual content**
  - DSpace uses ISO 639-1 (no language code for Papiamento)
  - Lack of language expertise on team
- **Temporally-extended and cross-departmental work is challenging**
  - Gap between journal's publication and preservation efforts
  - Departments with varied priorities means work happens in fits and starts

Related Literature

"Endings Principles for Digital Longevity (Version 2.2.1)," March 3, 2023. https://endings.uvic.ca/principles/.

Holmes, Martin, and Joey Takeda. "From Tamagotchis to Pet Rocks: On Learning to Love Simplicity through the Endings Principles." Digital Humanities Quarterly 017, no. 1 (May 26, 2023).

Ronallo, Jason. "Sunsetting DH Projects." DLF Forum. Pittsburgh, PA, 2017. https://ronallo.com/presentations/sunsetting-dlf/slides-single-page.html